



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: Application

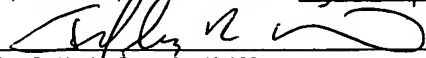
Inventor: Theodore D. Rees et al.
Appl. No.: 10/797,261
Confirm. No.: 5359
Filed: March 10, 2004
Title: Optical Pick-Up Units and Laser Drivers with Increased Functionality

PATENT APPLICATION

Art Unit: 2655
Examiner: Unknown
Customer No. 23910

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited in the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on June 9, 2004.

 (Attorney Signature)
Jeffrey R. Kuris, Reg. No. 41,132
Signature Date: June 9, 2004

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.56

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

It is requested that the information identified in this statement be considered by the Examiner and made of record in the above-identified application. This statement is not intended to represent that a search has been made or that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56. If this is a continuation, divisional or continuation-in-part application, it is understood that the Examiner will consider all information which was considered by the Office in a parent application. MPEP §609. Such information therefore is not listed herein unless it is desired that the information be printed on a patent issuing from the subject application.

Enclosed with this statement are the following:

- X Form PTO-1449. The Examiner is requested to initial the form and return it to the undersigned in accordance with MPEP §609.
- X The present application is being/was filed after June 30, 2003. In accordance with the pre-Official Gazette waiver of 37 CFR 1.98 (a)(2)(i) posted at pac/dapp/opla/preognotice/idswouscopies.htm, copies of cited U.S. patents and publications are not enclosed. Copies of cited foreign patent documents and non-patent literature are enclosed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2), as still required.
- X The citations listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and numbered 5-10 are without publication dates. Applicants have diligently endeavored to locate such dates without success, but can confirm that all of the references were printed from the internet before the filing date of the instant application of March 10, 2004. However, if necessary, applicants reserve the right to show that the present invention predate these citations.

This statement should be considered because:

- X 37 CFR §1.97(b). This statement qualifies under 37 CFR §1.97, subsection (b) because:

- (1) It is being filed within three months of the filing date of an application other than a continued prosecution application under §1.53(d);
-- OR --
- (2) It is being filed within 3 months of entry of a national stage;
-- OR --
- (3) It is being filed before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits,
-- OR --
- (4) It is being filed before the mailing date of the first Office Action after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination under 37 CFR §1.114.

— 37 CFR §1.97(c). Although it may not qualify under subsection (b), this statement qualifies under 37 CFR §1.97, subsection (c) because:

- (1) It is being filed before the mailing date of a FINAL Office Action, a Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the subject application, whichever occurs first.

-- AND (check at least one of the following) --

- (1) It is accompanied by a STATEMENT as set forth in 37 CFR §1.97(e).
-- OR --
— (2) It is accompanied by the \$180 fee set forth in 37 CFR §1.17(p).

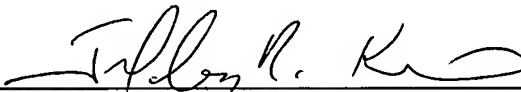
— 37 CFR §1.97(d). Although it may not qualify under subsection (b) or (c), this statement qualifies under 37 CFR §1.97, subsection (d) because:

- (1) It is being filed on or before payment of the issue fee;
-- AND --
- (2) It is accompanied by a STATEMENT as set forth in 37 CFR §1.97(e);
-- AND --
- (3) It is accompanied by the \$180 fee set forth in 37 CFR §1.17(p).

X **Fee Authorization.** The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge underpayment of any additional fees or credit any overpayment associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 06-1325.

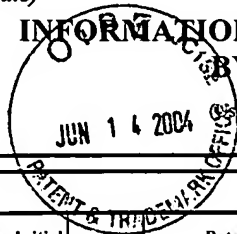
Respectfully submitted,

Date: June 9, 2004

By: 
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FORM PTO-1449 (Substitute) INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)	US DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	Attorney Docket Number ELAN-01110US2	Serial No. 10/797,261
	Applicant Theodore D. Rees et al.		
	Filing Date March 10, 2004	Group Art Unit 2655	



U.S. PATENTS							
Examiner Initial		Patent Number	Issue Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date
		5,216,659	06/01/1993	Call et al.			
		5,418,770	05/23/1995	Ide et al.			
		5,463,600	10/31/1995	Kirino et al.			
		5,495,463	02/27/1996	Akagi et al.			
		5,745,451	04/28/1998	Mukawa et al.			
		5,777,964	07/07/1998	Furuta et al.			
		5,790,491	08/04/1998	Jaquette et al.			
		6,414,932	07/02/2002	Kaku et al.			
		6,442,118	08/27/2002	Hoshino et al.			
		6,483,791	11/19/2002	Asada et al.			
		6,487,154	11/26/2002	Kurebayashi et al.			
		6,552,987	04/22/2003	Asada et al.			
		6,636,472	10/21/2003	Kurebayashi et al.			
		6,654,328	11/25/2003	Kaku et al.			
		6,674,702	01/06/2004	Asada et al.			
		6,687,208	02/03/2004	Asada et al.			

U.S. PATENT PUBLICATIONS				
Examiner Initial		Patent Application Publication Number	Publication Date	Applicant
		2002/0126609	09/12/2002	Kaku et al.
		2002/0186628	12/12/2002	Hoshino et al.

PENDING U.S. PATENT APPLICATIONS					
Examiner Initial		Application Number	Filing Date	Inventor	Petition to Expunge
					Yes No

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initial		Document Number	Publication Date	Country	Translation
					Yes No
	1.	11-213426	06/08/1999	Japan	✓

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)	
2.	Sony CX News, Vol. 30, "CXA2640ER, 3-Channel LD Driver for Optical Disc Drive, Preliminary," #PE02223-PS, 13 pp., Late 2002 or Early 2003

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3.	Sony CX News, Vol. 32, "CXA2680ER," #J02Y22, 19 pp., May 2003
4.	Sony CX News, Vol. 32, "CXA2674EM/CXA2673EM, Optical Pickup Chipset with Photodetector PDIC for Blue-Violet Laser Diodes," 2 pp., May 2003
5.	Sony CX News, "CXA2610AN, Laser Driver," #E00145A17, 10 pp., No Date
6.	Mitsubishi, "M61880FP," 14 pp., No Date
7.	Mitsubishi (Digital ASSP), "M66510P/FP Laser-Diode Driver," 10 pp., No Date
8.	Mitsubishi (Digital ASSP), "M66512P/FP, Laser-Diode Driver," 10 pp., No Date
9.	Mitsubishi (Digital ASSP), "M66515FP, Laser-Diode Driver/Controller," 7 pp., No Date
10.	Mitsubishi (Digital ASSP), "M66516FP, Laser-Diode Driver/Controller," 10 pp., No Date

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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EXAMINER: Initial if references considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

*1 = Copy not submitted because it was submitted in prior application _____ / _____, filed _____, 20____, and relied upon under 35 USC §120.

*2 = Copy not submitted because it was submitted in prior application _____ / _____, filed _____, 20____, and relied upon under 35 USC §120.